

The petition to award Technician class licensees privileges for which they have not earned is not completely without merit. The petitioner wishes to give "incentive" to said licensees to upgrade to a General class license (even though the current General class license requires only "novice", i.e., BEGINNER code ability...5 wpm).

If incentive is indeed the goal, and a practice area as outlined in the petition is also desired, then the current amateur licensing strategy should return to that of the 1950-1960 time frame where the NOVICE license became the entry level vehicle to amateur radio, with the incentive being the privileges of the General class upon increasing the code ability to 13 wpm, and the increased knowledge of radio, and electrical and electronic theories and techniques; communication procedures and techniques; good operating procedures; etc. Further, a one year limit to the NOVICE license allowed ample time for the licensee to either upgrade (if genuinely interested) or to let the license expire.

In closing, the petitioner, apparently without realizing it, desires a return to the 1950-1960 amateur radio licensing strategy. I wholeheartedly agree but DISAGREE with the awarding to Technician class licensees privileges NOT EARNED.

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